Leon Harry Gavin

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
PENNSYLVANIA

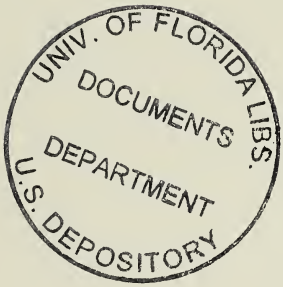
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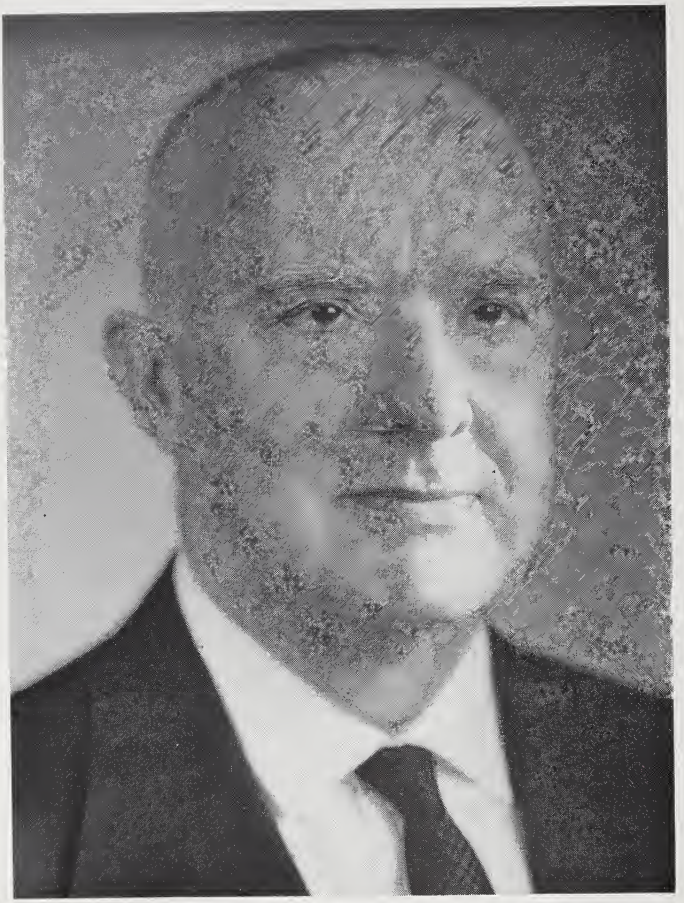
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Memorial Services

HELD IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND
SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, TOGETHER
WITH REMARKS PRESENTED IN EULOGY OF

Leon Harry Gavin

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
PENNSYLVANIA

Eighty-eighth Congress
First Session

UNITED STATES
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Biography

Leon Harry Gavin was born in Buffalo, Erie County, N.Y., February 25, 1893; moved to Oil City, Pa., in 1915; during the First World War served in the United States Army as a sergeant in the Fifty-first Infantry Regiment of the Sixth Division; served on the Defense Council of Venango County; member of the State Board of Appeals of the Selective Service System; executive secretary of the Oil City Chamber of Commerce; elected as a Republican to the Seventy-eighth and to the ten succeeding Congresses and served from January 3, 1943, until his death September 15, 1963; member of the National Migratory Bird Conservation Commission 1958–1963; died in Washington, D.C., September 15, 1963; interment in Arlington National Cemetery, Fort Myer, Va.

Memorial Services
for
Leon Harry Gavin

Proceedings in the House

MONDAY, *September 16, 1963.*

Rev. Sam H. Coker, First Methodist Church, Barnesville, Ga., offered the following prayer:

O God, we thank Thee for those who have gone before us and carved from a wilderness a land dedicated to freedom for all its citizens. Give us the courage to do for our time what they did for theirs. Save us from weak resignation. Grant us the insight to separate the nonessential and injurious from that which is necessary to undergird the strength of our Nation and preserve the liberty of all people called Americans.

Guard us lest we forsake the highest vision which Thou hast given to us in our moments of greatest spiritual power. Help us to fulfill our responsibility to Thee, to these United States, and to the world. Let patience guide as we seek freedom for all mankind.

We remember the prophet of old who asked: "What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" With Thy help we dedicate ourselves to justice, mercy, and humility.

We thank Thee for the life and service of our beloved colleague who served among us and whose spirit has entered the blessedness of Thy nearer presence.

Bless each person here and the people he represents. Let Thy wisdom be the guiding light in these days of tension as this body makes decisions, and grant that our Nation shall truly be "under God."

In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. DAGUE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a very sad heart that I have to announce the death of our distinguished colleague,

LEON HARRY GAVIN, late Representative of the 23d Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, there is a resolution at the desk, and I ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution (H. Res. 517) as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable LEON H. GAVIN, a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That a committee of thirty-five Members of the House, with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints as members of the funeral committee the following Members on the part of the House: Mr. Albert, Mr. Halleck, Mr. Arends, Mr. Vinson, Mr. Hébert, Mr. Rivers of South Carolina, Mr. Philbin, Mr. Corbett, Mr. Fulton of Pennsylvania, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Norblad, Mr. Dague, Mr. Barrett, Mr. Green of Pennsylvania, Mr. Bates, Mr. Rhodes of Pennsylvania, Mr. Saylor, Mr. Byrne of Pennsylvania, Mr. Flood, Mr. Clark, Mr. Holland, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Dent, Mr. Nix, Mr. Milliken, Mr. Moorhead, Mr. Toll, Mr. Schneebeli, Mr. Whalley, Mr. Goodling of Pennsylvania, Mr. Schweiker, Mr. Kunkel, Mr. McDade, Mr. Weaver, Mr. Rooney of Pennsylvania.

The Clerk will report the remainder of the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

The resolution was agreed to.

Accordingly (12 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, September 17, 1963, at 12 o'clock noon.

LEON HARRY GAVIN

TUESDAY, *September 17, 1963.*

A message from the Senate announced that the Senate had passed a resolution, as follows:

S. RES. 199

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of the Honorable Leon H. Gavin, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That a committee of two Senators be appointed by the Presiding Officer to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased the Senate, at the conclusion of its business today, adjourn until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

THURSDAY, *September 19, 1963.*

The Chaplain, Rev. Bernard Braskamp, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Romans 16: 19: *I would have you be wise unto that which is good and guileless as to what is evil.*

Almighty God, grant that we may be impelled by noble and altruistic motives in every plan that we are proposing and considering for the solution of our national and international problems.

Our own conscience severely rebukes us that there are frequently such variances and inconsistencies between our profession and our practice, between our promise and our performance, and between our creed and our conduct.

Inspire us daily to validate and authenticate the reality and glory of democracy by our loyalty and desire to manifest the splendor of its ideals and principles.

May we be numbered among those, who, in these perilous and troubled times, are seeking to orientate their minds and hearts to the spirit of our blessed Lord, who went about doing good and sought the welfare of all mankind.

Bless us now as we pay tribute to one of our colleagues who dwells with Thee in the eternal home.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, September 23, 1963, at 12 o'clock noon.

Memorial Addresses

Remarks by Representative Corbett

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. CORBETT. Mr. Speaker, the Honorable LEON H. GAVIN, Representative in Congress from the 23d District of Pennsylvania, was a fine Congressman and a fine citizen. He will not be with us in person anymore. But his good works and good influence will last.

LEON was a man who cared. He believed in many things. And when he believed he did not equivocate. He spoke out boldly, earnestly, and clearly. Once he had made up his mind it was not necessary to ask him twice where he stood nor why he had taken that position. He cared and he dared.

Our friend was a diligent worker. From the time he was first elected to Congress November 3, 1942, just about 21 years ago, he was always on the job in his committees, on the floor, on inspection trips and back in his district reporting and learning.

And our late Congressman was a successful man. He may have personally been most proud of his activities on the Armed Services Committee and Conservation Commission, but he will be best remembered by a grateful citizenry for his labors in behalf of flood control, clean water, and recreational areas. No man living or dead did quite so much as he did to promote these fine objectives all up and down the Allegheny River Basin. I know perhaps as well as anyone how intensely he felt on these matters and how diligently he worked to achieve them. People throughout western Pennsylvania and all down the Ohio River can be thankful that he lived and worked successfully to prevent floods, to reduce water pollution, and to provide at the resulting installations good recreational facilities.

Long after he may be forgotten millions will live secure from the fear of devastating floods, millions will enjoy the benefits of better water, and millions will enjoy wholesome beauty and recreation because he cared and worked for these ends. As one of the beneficiaries I say to him a solemn "Thank you" on behalf of all of us.

To LEON'S immediate family and relatives I say only what they know and feel. They can well be proud that LEON H. GAVIN was one of them. They knew him and loved him better than we did only because they knew him better than we did. We bid him a prayerful farewell, proud, and happy that he was one of us—a splendid colleague. You, his kin, can be even prouder and happier that he was one of you—a fine citizen, a fine father, a fine husband, and a fine man. God be with you.

Remarks by Representative Vinson

Of Georgia

Mr. VINSON. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply shocked to learn of the tragic loss of our colleague and my close personal friend, LEON GAVIN.

The Nation can ill afford to lose men of LEON GAVIN'S caliber. He possessed attributes of character that every man can envy.

He was loyal; he was sincere; he was courageous; and he was dedicated to the security of the Nation.

He was elected to the House of Representatives on November 3, 1942. When he passed away on Saturday, September 14, he was the dean of the Pennsylvania delegation.

He was a man who believed in his convictions, and never deviated from them. When the Armed Services Committee was formed in January of 1947, he became a member of that committee. I soon learned that the security of our Nation and the welfare of our Armed Forces came uppermost in his mind. There was not a single tinge of partisanship in his approach to national security matters.

I relied heavily upon his advice and counsel in the many matters of legislative concern that came to our attention during the past 16 years. He met his responsibilities in the committee and on the floor of the House in an outstanding and conscientious manner.

I can say with sincerity that LEON GAVIN contributed greatly to the building up, and the maintenance of the greatest military force for the preservation of peace that the world has ever known.

He knew from personal experience the futility of war, but he also knew the urgency and wisdom of being constantly prepared for war, so that it can be prevented. He knew that our strength and the maintenance of peace went hand in glove together.

The men and women who serve in our Armed Forces will be forever indebted to him, for he was one of them.

He knew the rigors of military life, having served in the 51st Infantry, 6th Division, during World War I.

And I think he would want me to repeat his concern for the men who live in the mud and dust and are exposed to the rain, the heat, and the snow while they are performing the never-ending task of defending our Nation.

He served his congressional district, his State, and his Nation with distinction, with honor, with enthusiasm, and with wisdom.

He also found time to be active in wildlife preservation, and to become a great student of the War Between the States. Hardly a week went by that he did not come into my office with a book in hand about some incident of that tremendous conflict.

The Congress of the United States is a greater institution because of LEON GAVIN; but it is poorer today because of LEON GAVIN'S passing.

I extend my most sincere sympathy to Mrs. Gavin and her family. They have lost a husband, a father, and grandfather—the Nation has lost a champion of the American way of life, and a loyal son.

I have lost a close, personal, true friend.

It is indeed appropriate that LEON GAVIN was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery among those with whom he served and loved so well.

Remarks by Representative Arends

Of Illinois

Mr. ARENDS. Mr. Speaker, with the passing of LEON GAVIN we have lost not solely a colleague. We have lost someone who cannot be replaced. He has left a void in our hearts that no one can fill. He was a man of determination and drive, of conviction and courage, an ardent advocate of what he believed; and so vigorously would he argue his case that he would impress one as being wholly unyielding.

But underneath this seemingly bluntness there was a humility, a compassion, and a heart of gold. He was endowed with a deep affection for his fellow men. His generosity and kindliness was without limits. He was always thinking of others.

One of the pages remarked to me a few weeks ago that the page boys considered Mr. GAVIN one of their favorites. He was never demanding but always understanding. He always expressed an interest in them personally, treated them as members of his family and not simply messenger boys in his hire. It is my understanding that periodically he would instruct the cloakroom lunch counter to give all the pages some kind of a treat.

All this bespeaks the man who is no longer with us. It says more than I can possibly say as to the kind of man he was—kindly, generous, compassionate, unselfish.

LEON took justifiable pride in having been an infantry sergeant in World War I. And I would guess that he was one of the best sergeants that Army had. When one reflects on it, LEON typifies what we generally consider a good sergeant as being. He had a commanding appearance. He had a bombastic way of speaking. He could be austere and determined. But beneath all this there was a deep affection for his men.

The distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania served over the years with me on the Armed Services Committee.

He occupied the seat next to me. No one was more regular in attendance at committee meetings. His assistance to me personally and his contribution to the work of our committee is beyond measure. His contribution to the deliberations of the House as a whole is beyond measure.

Mr. Speaker, we have lost a truly fine and a truly great man. I have lost one of my best friends. I extend my very real sympathy to his family.

Remarks by Representative Albert

Of Oklahoma

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, I join my friend from Pennsylvania and his colleagues from his State, and our colleagues on the Committee on Armed Services and all Members of the House, in expressing my personal sense of loss over the death of our late and beloved colleague, LEON GAVIN. The House of Representatives will not be the same any more since LEON has left us.

Over the years he endeared himself to every Member of the House. He was a man of singular characteristics—great ability, independent mind, deep convictions. Strong in his views, he nevertheless had a deep sense of humor. At times he was a regular actor. He was an outstanding and dedicated Member of the House. He was a Christian gentleman. He was my friend.

LEON GAVIN was a fine Congressman who served his country well. He worked tirelessly toward the development of the resources of his own State and district, but he worked even harder for a strong and free America. We shall long remember him and his good deeds.

I extend my deepest sympathy to Mrs. Gavin and his children. May his soul rest in that peace of God which passes all understanding.

Remarks by Representative Brown

Of Ohio

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Speaker, when one loses a close and dear friend, a colleague with whom he has been associated for 21 years, it is difficult to find the words one wishes to use to pay tribute to that fallen brother. So I find it difficult today to say the things I would like to say about LEON GAVIN who traveled this way and stayed awhile and made this House of Representatives a greater legislative body and this country a better Nation because of his having been here.

LEON GAVIN was a man, not only of great courage, as he demonstrated in World War I and in his service here, but also one of very strong convictions, a man who would not do anything his judgment or his conscience told him was not in the best interests of those he represented and so well served.

I recall many things, as they flood back across my mind, of the days gone by and of our association together.

Mr. Speaker, I remember LEON taking the floor of the House and making many a statement on behalf of legislation in which he believed, or in opposition thereto, as the case might be. I also recall his more human side, his ability to do something most of us could not do, of how he made his annual address every year to make famous his district as the home of the groundhog at Punxsutawney, if I can pronounce the name correctly. That particular groundhog became a national symbol, if you please, so everyone in America not only knew of him, but also knew of LEON GAVIN and his great and deep sense of humor. Perhaps those annual talks he made on Groundhog Day showed to us one side of LEON GAVIN that most people did not know and did not see. His deep sense of humor, as I said a moment ago, his ability to express himself in a homely way about common things that mean so

much to a great many people, who might hear his talk quoted on the air, or read about it. Yet his abilities went further.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Armed Services, as has been said here by the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. Vinson], the chairman of that committee; and by the minority leader on that committee, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Arends], LEON GAVIN contributed much to the strengthening of the defenses of America.

Mr. Speaker, he served here through difficult times, and two wars. His experience in World War I made him a better legislator, the type of legislator to whom all of us could turn, and did turn, from time to time for information and for advice in connection with those things so vital to the defense of America.

So I say, Mr. Speaker, that LEON GAVIN, while he will be missed from among our midst, will live on in the memory of all of us, in the history of this great Chamber, and in the annals of the forward march in this great Republic.

Remarks by Representative Rivers

Of South Carolina

Mr. RIVERS. Mr. Speaker, in the death of LEON GAVIN the House has indeed sustained an irreparable loss. He was my friend, and he was my colleague on the Committee on Armed Services. It was a great privilege to serve with him on the great subcommittee of which I have the great honor to be chairman. He was the ranking minority member of that subcommittee.

Mr. Speaker, LEON GAVIN was one of the great Americans in every sense that this word connotes. He was a man who was keenly interested in the welfare of our American fighting men. He jealously guarded their rights, and he fought tirelessly for their welfare. LEON GAVIN fully earned the confidence and respect of every one of the Members of this great body. His passing will leave a void that will not be filled in the distant future.

I am certain, however, Mr. Speaker, that LEON GAVIN needs no words of praise from me. His life and the words of his deeds will be amply documented on the pages of history of this great body. The monuments that are his and the monuments erected through and by his magnificent service in this Congress are now built into the very fabric of our way of life and the freedoms with which we are endowed.

Mr. Speaker, he was an authority on the history of the War Between the States. He knew practically everything about this unfortunate event in our history. One of the great characters in this struggle was a favorite of LEON GAVIN—Stonewall Jackson.

Mr. Speaker, when Stonewall Jackson lay mortally wounded he is alleged to have said these words:

Let us cross the river and rest in the shade.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that LEON lies in Arlington Cemetery, that he rests on the other side of the river in the shade with other heroes of another era and of another day.

Mr. Speaker, in the words of Robert Louis Stevenson:

Here he lies where he longed to be;
Home is the sailor, home from sea,
And the hunter home from the hill.

Remarks by Representative Jensen

Of Iowa

Mr. JENSEN. Mr. Speaker, LEON GAVIN was my friend. He was a man of sterling worth, he was a great patriotic American and a gentleman of the highest order. I remember well when he came to the Congress. I had been here a few years. I learned to know LEON GAVIN as a hard hitter, yet a man with a big, good heart. I learned to know his heartbeats.

I spoke to LEON on last Thursday right here in the House. We had a nice visit. Little did I suspect he would leave this life just a few days thereafter.

LEON was the kind of fellow who never complained, yet we know how he had many days of suffering during the past few years. He was a brave soldier, a top sergeant in World War I. I always called him the "top soak," which he liked.

I shall miss LEON, as will all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle. I join with my colleagues in the fine things that have been said about this great and good man.

May the same God who took LEON GAVIN to his heavenly home give his family strength to bear the great loss they have sustained.

God rest his soul.

Remarks by Representative McCormack

Of Massachusetts

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, for 21 years LEON GAVIN served with distinction, with ability, with courage, and with sincerity in this great body. By designation of this great body he held several important public positions of trust, getting experience which he quickly developed into expertness in the use of the machinery of the House of Representatives in the considerations both in committee and on the floor of the House.

During those years a very strong, close, and personal friendship developed between my dear late friend, our colleague, and myself, a friendship which I valued very much. It was only a day or two before his untimely death that we were chatting and engaging in a pleasant conversation, such as anyone always had when talking with LEON GAVIN.

In any cause to which he was dedicated and interested in, he was intense in fighting for the things in which he believed. For example, in the field of conservation he made and leaves behind him an outstanding record.

In 1954 the Izaak Walton League, the National Park Association, the National Wildlife Federation, the Wilderness Society, and the Wildlife Management Institute, jointly gave LEON a plaque for his championship of the National Park System. He was the second ranking man on the Republican side on the important Committee on Armed Services. During the period he served, many serious questions came before this committee, and the Congress of the United States in connection with the national interest and with the national defense of our country, and with reference to holding back and rolling back the vicious and evil forces of international communism. History will show that LEON GAVIN was always fighting and voting for those bills and those appropriations that made America strong, and that will enable our great country to take its position of leadership during this trying period in the world's history.

He was a man of independent views, a man of strong convictions, a man who voted as his judgment and his conscience dictated.

He leaves behind him a record that has now become an integral part of the history of this great body. He also leaves behind him a record that will be a great consolation to Mrs. Gavin, their two sons, and their daughter.

We come here and we serve for a period of time, in accordance with the will and the wishes of our constituents. We represent a spirit, each and every one of us, and we leave, whether by retirement or, as in the case of our late friend, through death. The spirit of our service is left behind and becomes a part of the atmosphere and the history of this body, and the spirit of LEON GAVIN'S service has enriched this body and enriched the history of this body.

He leaves behind him a contribution that will always be recorded in the legislative pages of the Congress of the United States. He was a man who thought directly and talked directly, who expressed his views. You knew where he stood. He was a man possessed of nobility of character, a man who evidenced by his utterances and his actions his intense love of his fellow human beings.

I have been enriched in my life by knowing LEON GAVIN. I am sure all of my colleagues who served with him either in this Congress or in past Congresses have also been enriched. We are better men and women because we knew and served with such a noble-minded gentleman. Physically he has left us, but the spirit of LEON GAVIN remains with us. He will always be an integral part of the atmosphere and the history of this great Chamber.

Mrs. Gavin and her sons and daughter derive consolation from the knowledge that he believed in the truth, spiritual and otherwise, and that LEON lived up to what he believed in. I know they will derive great consolation from the knowledge that he dedicated himself to God and country, and that it will be a solace to them in the years that lie ahead.

To Mrs. Gavin and her sons and daughter, Mrs. McCormack and I extend our profound sympathy in their bereavement.

Remarks by Representative Boggs

Of Louisiana

Mr. BOGGS. Mr. Speaker, the State of Pennsylvania has suffered two losses within the last several months, one a Democrat and one a Republican, both distinguished Americans; first the dean of the delegation, Tad Walter, whom we on our side of the aisle all loved, and now LEON GAVIN, whom all of us on both sides of the aisle loved.

For nearly 20 years it was my privilege—and a great personal pleasure—to know, to work with, to admire, and to respect LEON GAVIN.

He was, as we in this body say, "a Congressman's Congressman." He typified, in carrying out his responsibilities, the best in our congressional traditions. His unceasing diligence, his fairness and courtesy to all regardless of party, his eternal questing for the truth, his jealous regard for the prerogatives and the prestige of the House of Representatives—these qualities won him the respect and the high regard of all the Members of this House.

And these qualities also endeared him to the people of the 23d District of Pennsylvania. Time after time they sent him back to Washington with overwhelming majorities. They knew a good man when they saw him, they selected him as their spokesman, and they backed him up year after year. He never let them down.

We, and the people of his district, will miss LEON, but as we say our farewell, we remember that service—service to one's generation and service to one's country—is the noblest crown of life. Service—dedicated, unselfish service—certainly was LEON GAVIN'S crown.

Remarks by Representative Curtin

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. CURTIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I arise to join in the tributes being paid to our beloved colleague, LEON H. GAVIN. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1942 and has served his State and Nation well and continuously since that date. His 21 years as a legislator attest his devotion to our great Nation and well-being of its citizenry. He was motivated by the highest principles of representative government, of which he was a part. He translated his belief in the fundamental principles of democracy into actions which benefited his Nation, his State, and his constituency.

I express my deepest and most heartfelt sympathy to his devoted wife and to his children for the irreparable loss which they have sustained. With a sad heart, I join them in mourning his passing and extend to them my sincerest condolences and prayers that the good Lord may lighten their heavy burden of sorrow and that they may get much comfort from the remembering of his dedication to those principles of good government, to which he was such a firm adherent.

Pennsylvania has suffered the loss of a famous son, and and the people of his congressional district have suffered the loss of a devoted and forceful advocate in the halls of this great body.

It is my devout prayer that he may find peace, rest, and eternal reward in his heavenly home.

Remarks by Representative Goodling

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker—

The clock of life is wound but once,
And no man has the power
To tell just when the hands will stop—
At late or early hour.

Now is the only time you own:
Live, love, work with a will.
Place no faith in tomorrow, for—
The clock may then be still.

Little did any of us realize when we last saw LEON that his clock of life would be stilled so soon.

I was not privileged to know him as a younger man, but from what I have learned from colleagues, here was a man who actually did "work with a will." Pugnacious in the cause of right, he simply refused to take "no" for an answer. The highest tribute I could pay to LEON would simply be to say he was a good public servant, rendering devoted services to his congressional district, his State, and his Nation.

All of us want to remember him as a true friend, a man of courage, a two-fisted fighter but always displaying the human touch, an open mind and a warm heart.

No man is indispensable. The earth will continue to revolve on its axis, the sun will rise and set, the tide will ebb and flow, but every Member of this House will miss the influence of LEON GAVIN.

My sincere sympathy to Mrs. Gavin and the family.

Remarks by Representative Hardy

Of Virginia

Mr. HARDY. Mr. Speaker, it was my privilege to serve with LEON GAVIN on the Armed Services Committee for a number of years. Ours was a pleasant, personal, friendly relationship, which enabled me to observe in him the many fine and unusual qualities which endeared him to his colleagues and to his constituency and earned his repeated reelection. LEON was a sincere man of strong character, intense conviction, and of great tenacity in his pursuit of those convictions. He will be especially missed by those of us on the Armed Services Committee, and I join with my colleagues in expressing a feeling of personal loss and my sympathy to his family.

Remarks by Representative Horan

Of Washington

Mr. HORAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad privilege to join in this tribute to the memory of LEON GAVIN. LEON and I came to Congress at the same time. He was a genuine and honest person and was endowed with an especially keen sense of humor. His true character, however, I think is pointed up in his biographical sketch in the Congressional Directory. It was his modest choice to have it contain less than five sentences and yet it includes the words as has been referred to here many times today: "during First World War served as sergeant in the 51st Infantry." One knows how proud of that service as a sergeant he was. As my sons have reminded me—"sergeants have more authority." Certainly not that LEON wanted to dominate—except for justice and fairness and progress and Godliness and the good of all of us. He will always be all that a real and lovable "old sarge" means in its true sense. May God receive him and bless his soul forever. My wife and Mrs. Gavin have been friends for many years and she joins me in extending our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Gavin, their two sons, their daughter, and the entire family.

Remarks by Representative Hébert

Of Louisiana

Mr. HÉBERT. Mr. Speaker, in one of the great eulogies of history it has been said that the evil which men do lives after them, the good is oft interred with their bones. This could not apply to LEON GAVIN. There was no evil in him to live after him. The good that he did certainly was not interred with his bones but lives after him to remind us of the person who did live and who contributed so much to his country.

His booming voice has been silenced, but the beat of his great heart will continue to echo in the ears of those of us who now live and who are privileged to have known him. Those of us who were privileged to know him and to serve with him shall never forget him. For many years LEON GAVIN served on the Subcommittee for Special Investigations of the House Committee on Armed Services of which I was chairman. For the last 4 years he sat at my left hand as the ranking minority member of that committee. Wherever LEON GAVIN was present there was electricity in the air. He was stimulating, dynamic, and most effective. You could never forget having known LEON GAVIN.

The additional words I could utter now could in no way enlarge upon that which has already been said about him today in this body, so I merely pause to pay this simple and humble tribute to the memory of a man who had no evil but who had great capacity for good.

To Mrs. Gavin and his family and to his loyal Pennsylvania constituency may I express my deepest sympathy.

Remarks by Representative Dague

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. DAGUE. Mr. Speaker, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania stands bereft today of one of her most stalwart sons, this House has lost one of its most distinguished Members, and our delegation has witnessed the passing of a dynamic figure whose place in our midst can never be filled.

Our uncertain world of today has seen too few of his fearlessness and there are too few among us who care to invite the attacks of predatory interests by standing for the right as our late colleague was wont to do, even if he had to stand alone. Beneath the bluff exterior of this dedicated public servant you found a heart of gold and an infectious sense of humor that drew to his side a host of friends who never had to apologize for or explain his legislative or private actions.

It was my great privilege to enjoy LEON GAVIN'S confidence, and he often reviewed with me his plans and aspirations which centered largely in the betterment of his district and the welfare of his friends and loved ones. Thus it was that when he came under recent attack by certain newspapers because of his stand for what he felt was right he displayed a sensitiveness that bordered on bewilderment that his years of service should be so quickly forgotten.

We shall mourn the loss of this good friend and in the years that may be left to us we shall recall our association with this shining exemplar of courageous public service based on honest convictions. His belief in a life beyond this vale was firmly established, and we are divinely persuaded that he rests in a sunnier place where we shall all meet again those who have traveled on ahead. To his beloved wife, Susan, we extend our heartfelt condolences and to her and the other members of his family we offer our solicitude as they face a way ahead now darkened by this sad event.

Remarks by Representative Mahon

Of Texas

Mr. MAHON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join with my colleagues in paying tribute to the memory of our departed friend, LEON GAVIN.

Mr. Speaker, I have listened to these tributes, and I have been struck by the fact that so many in the remarks have captured the personality of the real LEON GAVIN. He was a forceful man; he was a fearless man. He was a just and capable man. He made a tremendous contribution to the welfare and security of our country.

Mr. Speaker, LEON GAVIN did a good job on the committee of which he was a member, one of the most powerful and most important in this body, the Committee on Armed Services. His interests ranged beyond that. In my work on the Committee on Appropriations, and especially on the Defense Subcommittee, I found him always helpful, always interested, and always concerned about the problems of our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is a sad day for us all, but we can take pride in the fact that this man has left a heritage to the House of Representatives and to his family which will endure into future days.

Remarks by Representative Whalley

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. WHALLEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to pay respects to our departed friend and colleague, LEON H. GAVIN. I feel privileged to have been able to have had him as my personal friend.

LEON GAVIN served his district and his Nation for many years with honor and distinction. His influence and the warmth of his friendship extended far beyond the borders of his congressional district.

We shall feel his loss keenly but can take comfort in the realization that, during his 70 years on this earth, LEON GAVIN lived a rich and full life, characterized by unselfish service to others.

I join my colleagues on both sides of the aisle in extending deepest sympathy to his widow and to the members of his family.

Remarks by Representative Bob Wilson

Of California

Mr. BOB WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in a final tribute to a very great and distinguished American—a man who served with honor in the House of Representatives and commanded the respect of every Member of this body. With the passing of LEON H. GAVIN, Mr. Speaker, I find that there is a void in the U.S. Congress which will be difficult to fill. During my few years in this body, as compared with the 21 years that LEON GAVIN served his Nation in these Halls, I have never found a more honorable friend or a more devoted public servant. He was devoted completely to his Nation, his State, his district, and to his family.

I served with LEON GAVIN on the Armed Services Committee, where he was second ranking minority member—and outstanding champion of the enlisted men of the U.S. armed services. The military posture of this country today is the better for his dedication and hard work.

On many occasions, he and I would hold friendly feuds concerning the respective qualities of our home States—California and Pennsylvania. But I never once lost respect for this man who was a giant among men—both physically and mentally.

He led the fight for his constituents and his untimely death came before the completion of an important project he had championed for his district, the Allegheny River Reservoir Dam. We here in Congress will long remember LEON GAVIN. We will miss him. And the Nation will miss his clear-sighted knowledge and devotion as a public servant.

Remarks by Representative Bonner

Of North Carolina

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I learned with inexpressible shock of the death of my good friend and neighbor, LEON GAVIN. We lived in the same neighborhood here in Washington and saw each other quite often. Our service in this great House has paralleled more than two decades. Naturally, I came in contact with him at home and here on the floor of the House.

Over the years we have served together I learned to recognize him as a Member of this body who had a deep interest in the welfare and preservation of this Nation. He stood quietly but firmly for the security of our country as a ranking member of the Committee on Armed Services. He carried forth the principles of other Members of Congress from his great State of Pennsylvania in recognizing the need and fighting for the preservation of our natural resources. He was a man of great influence.

Mr. Speaker, I found LEON GAVIN to be a man of splendid character, interesting and jovial to be with. I shall miss him, as others in this body shall miss him.

Mr. Speaker, I express my deep sympathy to his family and his friends on the sad occasion of his passing.

Remarks by Representative Bates

Of Massachusetts

Mr. BATES. Mr. Speaker, I consider it a great honor to join my colleagues today in paying tribute to a man who served with me on the Committee on Armed Services for some 14 years and with my father on the same committee for several years prior to that time.

I have traveled all over the world with LEON GAVIN. He was a diamond in the rough, a man who gave and asked no quarter in debate. On many occasions I know of the tremendous defense he made of the U.S. Army in the Committee on Armed Services to make certain that the mistakes made in World War I would not be repeated in the event that our country was engaged again in armed conflict.

Although he gave and asked no quarter, Mr. Speaker, I do not know of any man who had a bigger heart than LEON GAVIN. He was a pleasant man to travel with; he was an understanding individual. I considered him a real friend, not only on these trips but also as we sat together during my eight terms in the Congress on the Committee on Armed Services.

The country has lost a forceful representative, all of us have lost a good friend. I extend to his wonderful family, in whom he had such pride, a heartfelt expression of condolence.

Remarks by Representative Libonati

Of Illinois

Mr. LIBONATI. Mr. Speaker, Congressman LEON GAVIN was a man of solid personality—a strong, determined advocate in debate and a stanch supporter of legislative program proposals in the field of conservation and public improvements in depressed areas.

He was faithful to his party and yet made his own determinations in matters affecting the public interest.

He was a realist, practical and understanding of the problems of his people. He was kind and considerate of the rights of others and fought for principles to protect their interests.

He was a fighter at heart and loved to enter into spirited debate. His whole life interest was centered in his legislative work. As a dedicated Member of the House in the 20 years of his service he developed superb faculties of discernment and strongly voiced his position in the simple terms of the philosophers of old, colored by the earthly experiences of life itself. He spoke straight out, mincing no words and sparing none once he made up his mind that he was right.

He was a fearless public servant whose high integrity bespoke his honesty of purpose to service his district with a deep sense of loyalty to their needs and attitudes.

A great man has left us—the void he left is great—we of the Illinois delegation lost a loyal friend, a true statesman, and a powerful leader in our support.

The State of Pennsylvania has lost a great personage of high statesmanship and influence in this body. The Nation has lost a great patriot and public servant.

We send our heartfelt condolences to his lovely widow, Mrs. Susan Gavin, and his beloved family. May the Lord bless him and reward him with heavenly bliss.

Remarks by Representative Bray

Of Indiana

Mr. BRAY. Mr. Speaker, I first became acquainted with LEON GAVIN shortly after I came to Congress about 13 years ago. About 11 years ago I became a member of the Committee on Armed Services and from that time on had been very closely associated with him. I found him to be a dedicated man, a man who never compromised on his principles, who always fought for what he believed to be right.

There are many fine things I could say about Mr. GAVIN, but one of the greatest is we have never had a man in this Congress who showed a more continuing interest in the welfare of the enlisted man in our armed services. I do not recall any legislation coming before the Committee on Armed Services where he did not take a special and leading interest in the welfare of the enlisted man. He could be compared in many ways with Ernie Pyle, the great writer of World War II, who glorified the enlisted man in the service. That was an outstanding characteristic of LEON GAVIN.

We who knew him well knew that with all of his seriousness he had a keen sense of humor.

He was a very dear friend of mine. He was held in the very highest of respect by his colleagues. He was a man of character and a fighter for America.

We in the Committee on Armed Services will miss him in committee and all of us will miss him on the floor of the House. While I never knew his family intimately, I do know of his great devotion to them and know that they knew they had a very devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

All of us will miss LEON for a long, long time.

Remarks by Representative Fulton

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. FULTON. Mr. Speaker, it is a real feeling of personal loss to learn of the passing of my good friend, Congressman LEON GAVIN, of Pennsylvania. I join with my other Pennsylvania colleagues in paying tribute to our longtime friend and outstanding dean of the Pennsylvania Republican delegation. We are all sorry to learn of the sudden passing of LEON GAVIN, who has faithfully served the Congress and his district for 21 years.

LEON GAVIN was an example for those of us who worked with him, as a man strong in his beliefs, dedicated, patriotic, and determined in his convictions.

Not only have we Members of the Pennsylvania congressional delegation lost a close friend and colleague, but the whole Congress will miss LEON GAVIN, who had attained the second ranking position on the Armed Services Committee of the House of Representatives where he had served so patriotically and effectively. As a veteran of World War I and who served during World War II in the Congress, and continuously since that time, LEON GAVIN worked and fought for a strong defense of our good country.

I express especially to Mrs. Susan Gavin, as well as her two sons, William G. Gavin, of Falls Church, Va., and Attorney John R. Gavin, of McCandless Township, Allegheny County, Pa., and daughter, Mrs. Gordon Gudmestad, of Seattle, Wash., my sincere sympathy in their sorrow and my deepest personal regards.

We friends will certainly miss LEON GAVIN, and his cheery, hearty greeting as he entered any delegation or committee meeting, "At ease, men, I was a private once myself." Such warm-hearted and loyal friendships are really worth while, and LEON was a fine Congressman and a fine friend.

Remarks by Representative Milliken

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. MILLIKEN. Mr. Speaker, it was with great shock and a profound sense of loss that I learned of the sudden death of my colleague from Pennsylvania, the Honorable LEON H. GAVIN.

During my years in the House of Representatives I came to admire and respect "LEE" GAVIN as one of the outstanding members of the Pennsylvania delegation. His life was one of dedicated public service—to his district, his State, his country, and the Committee on Armed Services on which he served so ably.

The people of the 23d Pennsylvania District have lost a real public servant and a friend in "LEE" GAVIN. He will be sorely missed by them, as well as by his many colleagues on both sides of the aisle in the House where he served so many years. To Mrs. Gavin and to his family I offer my sincere sympathy.

Remarks by Representative Schweiker

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. SCHWEIKER. Mr. Speaker, it was with a deep sense of sorrow that I learned of the death of my distinguished colleague from Pennsylvania, the Honorable LEON GAVIN. His constituents, his many friends in the Congress, and the people of Pennsylvania have suffered a great loss in his passing.

His unfailing devotion to duty and his dedicated service to his district, his State, and his Nation will be sorely missed. The intelligent guidance and helpful advice which he willingly gave to his younger colleagues have endeared him to many.

LEON GAVIN'S unselfish leadership as head of the Pennsylvania Republican delegation will not soon be forgotten. For me, it has been a distinct honor to serve as delegation secretary under his able chairmanship.

His family and countless friends may always take comfort in knowing that LEON GAVIN has left a deep mark on the world he served so well. Claire and I extend our deepest sympathies to Mrs. Gavin and her family.

Remarks by Representative Kunkel

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. KUNKEL. Mr. Speaker, never have I been more deeply shocked and grieved than when the news of the sudden death of my tried and true friend, LEON GAVIN, was flashed on the television last Sunday afternoon.

We had been good friends ever since LEON'S first election—to the 78th Congress. In all that time I can never remember any disagreement with him on any subject other than the friendly arguments one has here in the House in respect to differing viewpoints on legislation. But LEON was a broad-minded man. You could differ with his views and opinions without fear of marring your personal relationship in even the slightest degree.

LEON was a sturdy individualist. He studied legislation carefully. He reached his own independent conclusions. He always acted for what, in his judgment, were the best interests of the Nation and the State and his district. Few people have ever worked more strenuously for the welfare of a district than did LEON for his. There are many memorials to his efforts now dotting the 23d District of Pennsylvania. In any projects or matters affecting the welfare of the State of Pennsylvania, LEON was always a leader in the battle to obtain them.

LEON was the dean of our delegation on the Republican side. He was the eighth ranking Republican in the House. For many years he had been a distinguished and valuable member of the great Committee on Armed Services. At the time of his death, he was the second ranking Republican member. He took a tremendous interest in his committee work. He contributed greatly to the building and maintenance of the defense of our Nation in many ways through his activities on that committee.

LEON was always ready to assist a friend. I can recall many instances when he willingly and enthusiastically co-

operated with me in helpful ways. He had unbounded energy and a keen sense of humor. I will always remember the way he would come into our delegation meetings with the announcement, "At ease, I was a private once myself."

The Nation, the Congress, the State of Pennsylvania, and in particular, the 23d District and his countless friends have suffered a great loss.

I am saddened by the loss of his warm and understanding friendship, but I am thankful for having once possessed it.

To his wife and family, I extend my deepest sympathy.

Remarks by Representative Weaver

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. WEAVER. Mr. Speaker, in the death of Mr. GAVIN the Pennsylvania delegation, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the Nation have lost a distinguished leader who ably served his country.

His loss will be particularly felt in northwestern Pennsylvania. We of Pennsylvania have closely observed his concern for the welfare of his constituents and the conscientious manner in which he handled problems facing the Nation.

He was a sincere, dedicated public servant whose election to the House 11 times indicates strongly the confidence and faith his constituents placed in him.

Mr. GAVIN, through his long tenure in office, gained a thorough knowledge of the operations of Government. His advice and counsel since I became a Member of Congress have been invaluable to me.

Mr. GAVIN had a deep interest in conservation work. He consistently fought for adequate funds for the development of forests and the fish and game resources on public lands. For his interest in this field he was presented a national award for distinguished service.

In his services as a member of the House Armed Services Committee he championed a strong America and showed a sympathetic interest to the problems and welfare of members of the armed services and veterans.

Who could forget his pride in being a sergeant of World War I. Many times when he would stride into the Pennsylvania delegation meetings where he served as dean and chairman, his top sergeant voice would boom out: "At ease, men—do not stand up; I was once a private myself."

The warmth and vitality of this long-term Congressman was and is an inspiration to all of us who follow in his footsteps.

It is with deep regret that I express my sympathy to Mrs. Gavin and the members of her family.

Remarks by Representative McDade

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. McDADE. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues in the House to extend my deepest sympathy to the family of Congressman LEON GAVIN.

Knowing LEON was to me a great privilege. He demonstrated qualities of leadership and a tireless devotion to his district, to the Congress, and to the Nation. Perhaps more important than all of these, LEON possessed rare qualities of kindness. This, more than the tremendous record of his accomplishments, will remain with me always.

LEON "fought the good fight, he finished the course, and he kept the faith." We shall all miss him deeply.

Remarks by Representative Auchincloss

Of New Jersey

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I am much saddened by the untimely death of our colleague, LEON GAVIN, who represented the 23d District of Pennsylvania. He came to Congress the same year that I did, and I always had a deep respect for his judgment and was honored by his friendship.

He called himself a sort of a "maverick" and indeed it is a fact that he asserted his independence not only in his thinking but in his actions. However, there is no doubt that people admired him for his quality, and, although he may not have agreed with you, he bore no ill will, and there was no rancor in his heart. He was blessed with a constructive and keen sense of humor which he used on occasions to emphasize an argument, and it would make a definite impression on his hearers. His remarks on Ground Hog Day were looked forward to by his colleagues and although his subject was always the same, there was nothing trite or repetitious about what he said and it was a delight to listen to him.

There were few men that I have known who had a greater spirit of patriotism or love for America than LEON GAVIN. He was a devoted citizen and had no patience or tolerance for any theory of government or ideology which would weaken the fundamental principles on which our Nation was founded. He was an inspiration to all with whom he came in contact and an example for all Americans in the honor and respect he gave his country.

His death leaves a void in the Congress which will be hard to fill but the memory of this great man will linger long in the hearts of those who knew him, and the effectiveness of his unselfish and ardent spirit will last through the ages.

I extend my sincere sympathy to the members of his family who suffer greatly in this bereavement, and I bid them take heart and comfort in the knowledge that he was a "true and faithful servant" who has attained a rich reward.

Remarks by Representative Kelly

Of New York

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, today I join my fellow Members of Congress in paying tribute to the memory of a most esteemed colleague, LEON GAVIN.

In his long and distinguished career of public service, LEON GAVIN was notable for his dedication and perseverance. Determined to achieve that which he believed to be right, he worked hard and successfully for the welfare of his home State and the Nation as a whole.

My deepest, heartfelt sympathy is offered to his family. May God's blessings sustain them in their loss.

Remarks by Representative Sikes

Of Florida

Mr. SIKES. Mr. Speaker, I share the regret that has been expressed by my colleagues over the death of our colleague, LEON GAVIN. It is a very genuine regret. Here indeed was a man. His service was outstanding. We served together for a long time. I knew him better than most. I think he was absolutely fearless in his approach to the problems before the Congress.

Here was a man who gained and held the respect of his colleagues even when he differed with them. We knew that he spoke, in his vigorous and straightforward manner, from the heart; that he was sincere. Here was a man who loved his America, who stood up for it, who fought to preserve and protect its institutions, and who gained a great name by his devoted and unselfish service. A strong voice is gone; a strong leader is gone; a sincere and devoted American is gone. In LEON GAVIN'S death, the Nation has lost an able and articulate spokesman for good and sound government.

Remarks by Representative Philbin

Of Massachusetts

Mr. PHILBIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with a very heavy heart indeed, as well as with a sense of shock and deepest grief that I learned of the sudden, unexpected death of my very dear friend and esteemed and admired colleague, Congressman LEON GAVIN, of the great State of Pennsylvania.

Only a few days ago I talked with him at some length in the House and in the House restaurant, but, as usual, he appeared to be hale and hearty, extremely vigorous and in good health. He looked exceptionally well, and in his characteristically lively, forceful manner, exchanged views with me on a number of pending public questions and controversies presently before the Congress.

When I left him, little realizing it was our last talk, he cheerfully wished me a good weekend and remarked that he looked forward to seeing me Monday. So I repeat, Mr. Speaker, I am shocked almost beyond expression, and touched as I have seldom been by word of his truly untimely and unanticipated demise.

LEON GAVIN was one of the greatest Americans I have ever known. He was a patriot in the best sense of the word—dedicated to his country, and to the cause of free, democratic government. In war and in peace he enthusiastically and courageously demonstrated his loyalty and devotion to the principles of our Nation and the American way of life.

He was a man of very strong convictions which he did not hesitate to express. He was a man of great humane quality who had deep feelings for his fellow man and the people of the rank and file of our citizenry. He was the true friend of the people, their stalwart champion and eager servant.

In his work on the House Armed Services Committee, which he performed with great diligence, sincerity, and high purpose, time and time again he made it clear beyond any doubt that he was not only very well informed concerning the

needs but absolutely committed to meeting them promptly and efficiently in the interest of the national security and a well rounded, effective national defense. As a fellow member of the committee, like all colleagues, I greatly admired him.

His extensive experience in military action during World War I, in which he made a distinguished record, gave him a deep insight into the problems of the armed services and enabled him to make particularly valuable contributions to the deliberations and work of our committee.

Endowed with great natural ability, impeccable character, high ideals, devotion to lofty principles and an eagerness to serve his district, State, and country, LEON GAVIN has left us all a legacy of able, devoted public service which will long remain an inspiration.

He will long be remembered in this historic Chamber for his rugged Americanism, his profound love of freedom, his able, dedicated service, his outstanding patriotism, and the depth of his compassion for the inarticulate, the poor, helpless, and the needy.

In the passing of LEON GAVIN, a devout and God fearing soul, I have lost a dear and valued friend. The House has lost one of its most able and zealous Members. His district has lost an outstanding representative, and the Nation has lost a loyal and devoted patriot and public servant.

My heart goes out to his bereaved family whom he loved so dearly—his gracious helpmate and wife, Mrs. Gavin, his loving sons, their families, and all his dear ones, whose loss is so great, so poignant, and so deeply felt.

I hope that in this great sorrow that has come to them with such crushing suddenness that the good Lord will bring them true reconciliation, strength, consolation and peace, and I hope and pray that our beloved and cherished friend, LEON, may find everlasting surcease and rest in his heavenly home.

Remarks by Representative Schneebeli

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. SCHNEEBELI. Mr. Speaker, the dean of our Pennsylvania Republican delegation, LEON GAVIN, was a friendly, lovable, and dedicated legislator. Since the beginning of this year, when he was elected our delegation chairman, LEON brought our group together much more closely as a unit by his sympathetic leadership and we shall certainly miss him on the floor and as presiding official at our biweekly meetings. He worked hard at building our group into a harmonious unit, and he was most cooperative with each of us in the delegation.

LEON took his legislative responsibilities most seriously, and he was ever trying to determine his proper course of action. He was dogged in his objectives, as was noted in his recent success in having secured approval for authorization for the Kinzua Dam project in his congressional district. He had many odds and disadvantages to overcome in achieving this success, but he was relentless and driving until he finally succeeded.

LEON enjoyed tremendously his work as a Congressman and he was rightfully proud of his many accomplishments in behalf of his ideals. We shall miss him and his beneficial guidance and counsel in the future. Mrs. Schneebeli and I extend our deep sympathy to Mrs. Gavin in her grief and sorrow resulting from LEON'S sudden and tragic passing.

Remarks by Representative Murphy

Of Illinois

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, it was a great shock to me and to my staff on learning of the untimely passing of Congressman LEON H. GAVIN.

Mr. GAVIN was in his 21st year as a Representative of the 23d District of Pennsylvania. He was second ranking minority member of the House Committee on Armed Services and dean of the Republican delegation from Pennsylvania.

Mr. GAVIN was deeply interested in flood control and devoted his untiring efforts toward the completion of an important project for the construction of the $100 million Allegheny River reservoir dam in Warren County, Pa. His great interest in wildlife was indicated by his acceptance as a House representative on the National Migratory Bird Conservation Commission.

LEON GAVIN was one of the first Members I met when I became a Member of the 86th Congress. Because our offices are adjacent, a close friendship and warm relationship developed between us and members of our staffs. He was helpful to me in setting up my office and his staff has been very cooperative with mine.

LEON was not only my colleague, but a close personal friendship existed between us. His loss will be keenly felt by not only his constituency but by the entire membership of the House of Representatives.

Mrs. Murphy joins me in extending our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Gavin, his lovely daughter and two sons for the great loss they have sustained. May God grant him peace everlasting.

Remarks by Representative Morgan

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. MORGAN. Mr. Speaker, we are all saddened by the sudden death of our colleague, LEON GAVIN, who was dean of the Pennsylvania Republican congressional delegation.

I knew LEON through the years of our service in the Congress as a sincere friend and gentleman who, although on the opposite side of the aisle, was always ready to cooperate whenever he thought the case was just or whenever the action would be of benefit to our country and State.

He represented the 23d District in northwestern Pennsylvania with conscientious ability. He was elected by comfortable majorities for 11 terms, which is evidence of the esteem in which he was held by his constituency.

He was the second ranking minority member of the House Armed Services Committee. He served that committee and this Congress with distinction.

He was a good man, a sincere, earnest, able, and hard-working legislator. He will be missed, not only by this Congress but by the State of Pennsylvania and the Nation. To his widow and his children who survive him I extend my deepest sympathy.

Remarks by Representative Langen

Of Minnesota

Mr. LANGEN. Mr. Speaker, once more we gather in the hushed atmosphere of this room to speak softly but sincerely of a colleague whose voice has been stilled by the firm hand of our Maker. There is a certain amount of regret in our hearts as we rise in eulogy; regret that our departed colleague is not present to hear what we say; regret that many of our words were not uttered long ago.

LEON GAVIN walked up to me in this very Chamber the Thursday before his death. We had our usual friendly chat, and the subject turned to the problems of maintaining good health. I was pleased to hear that LEON apparently had none of the problems that face others. He remarked that he had never felt better. His words were sadly recalled 3 days later as the flags were lowered to half-mast in his memory.

We will miss LEON GAVIN's dedication to the principles of good government. We will miss his devotion to his country and to this legislative body. We will miss his vast experience as a lawmaker.

Ground Hog Day will never be quite the same without his pertinent remarks on the subject.

We will long remember his forceful and persuasive voice as he faced this body, a voice that could and often did put a certain amount of fear into the hearts of his listeners. Unless you knew LEON GAVIN well, you might not perceive the quiet, thoughtful personality within.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to his family in their hour of sorrow. We, too, will miss LEON GAVIN, an American statesman who gave his full measure to the preservation of the freedoms he held so dear.

Remarks by Representative Saylor

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. SAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, with the death of LEON GAVIN, the House of Representatives has been deprived of a dedicated, able, and conscientious Member.

The State of Pennsylvania and his congressional district have lost a public servant whose entire political career was distinguished by the highest sense of duty and service.

Those of us in this House who were privileged to know him well have lost a valued friend and a wise colleague.

His family, to whom we all extend our heartfelt sympathies, have lost a devoted husband and father.

LEON GAVIN was his own man. His stand on public issues was dictated by his head, his heart, and his conscience. This independence was an inspiration to all of us and a source of the profound respect in which we all held him.

LEON GAVIN is dead, but he has left us a rich heritage.

He has left this House a better place as a result of his 20 years of service here.

He has left his country a stronger nation, especially as a result of his keen interest in conservation and his work on the Armed Services Committee.

And he has left to each of us a noble gift indeed—the memory of a man whose life exemplified the highest ideals of honor and integrity.

Remarks by Representative Haley

Of Florida

Mr. HALEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join our colleagues on this sad occasion in paying tribute to our departed friend, the late LEON HARRY GAVIN, Representative from Pennsylvania.

It was my privilege to meet LEON soon after I became a Member of the 83d Congress. We represented different regions of this great Nation. We were members of different political faiths and we never served together on a committee of the Congress, but we became good friends and I cherished this friendship.

This was a man who was dedicated in the service of his State and his country. I had the deepest respect for his ability, for his knowledge and for his long and effective service in the House of Representatives.

I know that the people of Pennsylvania have lost a noble son. Our Nation has lost one of her finest citizens and most able legislators.

To Mrs. Gavin and her children, I express my deepest sympathy.

Remarks by Representative Kirwan

Of Ohio

Mr. KIRWAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep regret that I note today the passing of one our dear friends and colleagues from Pennsylvania, LEON GAVIN.

It was my privilege to have served with him during his 21-year career in the House, and I shall long retain fond memories of our association.

Over the years LEON GAVIN earned the respect and esteem of every Member of this body. He was a man of immense character; more so, he was a man of his word. His dedication and determination were well known to his colleagues as well as to his constituents who reelected him on 10 consecutive occasions. He was an ardent partisan, but an independent voter, and he cherished his independence.

It is said that a man is best judged by those with whom he works. I think I can speak for the whole House when I say that in the estimation of his colleagues, LEON GAVIN was a fine man.

We are all a little poorer with the loss of any valued item, but we are poorer still with the loss of a good friend.

Remarks by Representative McClory

Of Illinois

Mr. McCLORY. Mr. Speaker, in expressing admiration for the life and works of our late colleague, LEON H. GAVIN, I want to recall that during this—my first term—it was my privilege to have my office next door to his in the Longworth House Office Building.

Mr. GAVIN was cordial and friendly to me as well as to others with whom he came in contact. A legislator of courage and conviction, he expressed his considered views articulately, both on and off the floor of the House of Representatives. He gave modestly the benefit of his wisdom, gained from a lifetime of experience and adherence to the highest principles.

The spirit and the wisdom of LEON H. GAVIN, esteemed and longtime Member of Congress from the 23d District of Pennsylvania, will live on—in the Halls of Congress and in the memory of his colleagues. The respect and praise expressed on this occasion can attest in only a small measure to the high esteem in which we have always held him.

In joining in these expressions of respect for my friend and colleague, the late LEON H. GAVIN, I want also to communicate my deep and heartfelt sympathy to his beloved widow and children.

Remarks by Representative O'Hara

Of Illinois

Mr. O'HARA. Mr. Speaker, today there is a void in this historic Chamber and in our hearts is the pang of a personal grief. It is difficult to understand the pattern of life. Only on last Thursday as I was coming through the tunnel to the Capitol I was charmed, as I have been on many occasions during many years, by the heart-warming voice of LEON GAVIN in greeting a colleague and a friend. He seemed in the full vibrancy of life and there was no indication in his manner or his appearance that it was the last time I was to hear a voice that long association and warm friendship had endeared to me. I was shocked when I heard of his passing in a radio news broadcast on Sunday.

LEON GAVIN was genuine in everything that he did, and he was genuine in every word that he uttered. There was nothing artificial about LEON GAVIN. Affectation was foreign to his nature. I shall always remember him as a great American who in high public office lived up to the tradition that a public official is a public servant.

I shall always remember his speeches from the well of the House, his ringing voice, his employment of plain and understandable words, his ardor, his so apparent sincerity in his convictions. In the seven Congresses in which I have served with him I cannot recall a single occasion when the Speaker had to call the House to order because the Members were not listening.

In his passing I have lost a beloved friend, and I shall miss him sadly. I share in the grief of his wife and children, and to them I extend my deepest sympathy.

Remarks by Representative McIntire

Of Maine

Mr. McINTIRE. Mr. Speaker, the passing of our colleague and good friend LEON GAVIN touched me with deep sadness.

It was my privilege to have his friendship and counsel during my entire service in the House of Representatives, and this association is one that I will always treasure.

LEON GAVIN was always an eager and able participant in the legislative proceedings of this Chamber, and he was held in the highest regard by the Members of this body. As both a person and a legislator he will be sorely missed.

Mrs. McIntire joins with me in extending heartfelt sympathy to the members of the Gavin family.

Remarks by Representative Hemphill

Of South Carolina

Mr. HEMPHILL. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness today that I join other Members of the U.S. House of Representatives in paying tribute to the life and the service of the late, the honorable, and the beloved LEON HARRY GAVIN, who so ably represented the 23d District of Pennsylvania in the U.S. Congress. To his family and his legion of friends Mrs. Hemphill and I extend our deep and continuing sympathy.

It was not my privilege to know Congressman GAVIN intimately. Like so many others, I only knew him through his appearance and his work here on the national scene. He was a man of honor and a source of aggressiveness. He was determined and he was dedicated. All of us recognize that he strictly attended to the business of the Congress, especially the business of the Armed Services Committee on which he was so valuable a member for so many years.

We can take example from him—example of service and dedication and dignity. I would hope that his family and friends find comfort in the reflection of a useful life lived by a man who was truly a great American.

Remarks by Representative Keogh

Of New York

Mr. KEOGH. Mr. Speaker, it was with sadness that I learned of the sudden passing of our distinguished and beloved colleague, LEON H. GAVIN, of Pennsylvania, for he was my good and old friend.

For 21 years LEON GAVIN served faithfully and well in the House. He represented a mixed industrial and farming area in northwestern Pennsylvania and, unfortunately, died before the completion of a project in which he was greatly interested and which consumed much of his interest and effort—the $100 million Allegheny River reservoir dam now being constructed in Warren County, Pa. He was the second ranking Republican member of the Armed Services Committee and the dean of the Pennsylvania delegation. He was a sincere, hard-working Member whose bright bits of levity occasionally lightened the arduous proceedings of this body.

LEON GAVIN was a kind and friendly man without malice who devoted himself to the interests of the people of his home community and to the welfare of our country. He will be greatly missed by all of us who were privileged to know him and to serve with him. I extend to Mrs. Gavin and to his sons and daughter my deep and heartfelt sympathy on their great loss. I hope that they will find consolation in the thought that LEON had a long and active life and leaves behind a rich heritage of public service.

Remarks by Representative Rhodes

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. RHODES. Mr. Speaker, I was saddened to learn of the death of my respected colleague, Representative LEON GAVIN, of Pennsylvania's 23d District.

Representative GAVIN was dean of the Republican delegation from Pennsylvania and was highly respected by all Members of Congress of both political parties.

I have known LEON as a very good friend ever since I came to the Congress. His cordiality, good humor, and dedication to public service made him a justly revered friend and an outstanding Congressman.

I join all of his colleagues in offering my condolences to Representative GAVIN's family.

Remarks by Representative Cohelan

Of California

Mr. COHELAN. Mr. Speaker, I join with our colleagues in expressing deep sorrow and regret over the passing of a revered and valued Member of the House.

It was my great privilege to serve with LEON GAVIN on the House Committee on Armed Services. There, and on the floor of the House, I came to know and respect this man as a loyal and distinguished public servant; as a courageous American dedicated to the ideals of our country and to those policies which he believed would enable us to achieve and maintain our greatness.

"Sarge" GAVIN, with his voice and bearing, brought the image of the first sergeant to the Halls of Congress. He was proud of his well-earned nickname and responded to it with zest. His comrades of World War I and his colleagues seldom could remember "LEON"—it was always "Sarge," and it stuck. The U.S. Army has lost a devoted and loving advocate. His support of the GI was unceasing. "Sarge" GAVIN'S colorful presence in the House where he served so faithfully for so long leaves an enormous void. But the legend of "Sarge" will be remembered wherever "dogfaces" and "doughboys" get together.

Mrs. Cohelan joins with me in extending our heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Gavin and their children.

Remarks by Representative Dorn

Of South Carolina

Mr. DORN. Mr. Speaker, in my 15 years of service in the Congress, I have never known a more conscientious, more dedicated, hard-working Congressman than LEON HARRY GAVIN. He gave his life in the service of his country. From the time he was a soldier in World War I, he fought for a strong national defense; he was a great statesman, and America is a more secure nation as a result of his dedication, patriotism, and outstanding service.

Mrs. Dorn joins me in deepest sympathy to his devoted family.

Remarks by Representative Gross

Of Iowa

Mr. GROSS. Mr. Speaker, I feel a real sense of personal loss in the death of my friend, LEON GAVIN.

He was a dedicated, working Member of the House. Beneath his brusque exterior and his readiness to fight for what he believed to be right, all of which led me to affectionately address him as "Scrap Iron," there was a warm and friendly heart. Members of the House will miss his presence and will not soon forget him.

I join with my colleagues in extending sincere condolences to Mrs. Gavin and the other members of his family.

Remarks by Representative Riehlman

Of New York

Mr. RIEHLMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was shocked, along with other Members of Congress, to learn of the death of LEON H. GAVIN.

Ever since I have been a Member of Congress I have known him quite intimately. Through the years I have appreciated the assistance and advice he has so generously given me.

I was particularly fortunate in obtaining his advice on matters dealing with the Military Establishment. He devoted so much time and energy to this field and was truly expert in it.

His loss will be deeply felt in the House of Representatives, his community, and in our country.

I offer my heartfelt sympathy to his family.

Remarks by Representative Winstead

Of Mississippi

Mr. WINSTEAD. Mr. Speaker, I was shocked and grieved to learn of the passing of my friend and colleague, the Honorable LEON H. GAVIN. The State of Pennsylvania, as well as the entire Nation, has lost one of its most outstanding citizens.

It was my privilege to serve with LEON on the House Armed Services Committee for many years. I have never known a more dedicated and patriotic American, and I am certain that, through his effective and untiring efforts as a member of the committee, he made many lasting contributions to the defense of the country he loved so well.

LEON GAVIN will be greatly missed by his colleagues in the House, and I know the people of his congressional district will find the task of replacing him a difficult one indeed.

To his devoted wife and other members of the family I extend deep and sincere sympathy.

Remarks by Representative Derwinski

Of Illinois

Mr. DERWINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues this afternoon in paying my deep respect to our distinguished former colleague, LEON GAVIN, whose sudden death last Saturday night was a great shock and loss to all of us.

LEON was a hard-working and conscientious Representative, an outstanding citizen, and a credit to his State and to the Nation. Since his election to Congress in 1942, his service to the people of his district won for him their utmost faith and confidence, which was evidenced by the overwhelming majorities with which he was continuously returned to Congress.

LEON GAVIN was particularly interested in conservation, and had been honored nationally by the National Parks Association, the Izaak Walton League, and other organizations and societies, for his great work in this field.

We shall miss him greatly, and I join my colleagues in extending deepest sympathy to his family.

Remarks by Representative Stratton

Of New York

Mr. STRATTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my deep sadness in the loss of my good friend, our colleague, LEON GAVIN. Since coming to the Congress 5 years ago I have had the privilege and pleasure of serving with LEON on the great Committee on Armed Services. I had come to have a high regard for his integrity, for his outspoken courage, for his independence, and for his dogged persistence in behalf of those causes in which he deeply believed.

As one who had served in the Army in World War I, LEON GAVIN was always an effective spokesman in our committee for the Army, indeed more particularly for the hard-working, plodding, unsung rank-and-file infantryman who really wins the battles and wins the wars, even in this mechanized and computerized age of ours. Even with the growing complexity of sophisticated and automated weapons systems, LEON GAVIN never let our committee or those representing the Department of Defense who appeared before us forget that after all we needed to look out for the men whose courage and whose willingness to run risks really provided the core of our military preparedness.

Mr. Speaker, GI Joe lost a real friend and champion in the passing of LEON GAVIN, and we, too, in this Congress have lost a dear and a thoughtful and a devoted colleague. I only hope that as a result of my own years of association with LEON GAVIN perhaps something of his concern for the man who wears the pack, the man who carries the rifle, the man who walks and climbs instead of riding—the so-called little man, whether it be in military operations or in any other field of human endeavor—has rubbed off on me and that in that committee which LEON loved so devotedly and which he served so effectively we can all join together in the months ahead to carry on the fight that he had come to make so distinctively his own.

Remarks by Representative Hall

Of Missouri

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I join in expressing the sense of loss that the Congress and the Nation have suffered in the death of LEON GAVIN. It was my privilege to serve with LEON on the Armed Services Committee.

As the second ranking minority member of that committee, he made a lasting contribution to the security and well-being of our country. He had a great sense of responsibility both to his constituents and to the Nation as a whole, and he always applied his vast experience toward the solution of the difficult issues before our committee.

He will be missed by all of us, and I want to express my sympathy to his family, even while assuring them that the impact of his dedication to principle will always remain among us.

Remarks by Representative Pelly

Of Washington

Mr. PELLY. Mr. Speaker, the sudden passing of our colleague, LEON GAVIN, deprives the Congress and the House of one of its most effective Members. Likewise it deprives the Nation of one of its most devoted and patriotic citizens.

LEON GAVIN was always in the forefront of any legislative issue involving the defense of our country and he was an ardent and vigorous debater. Also in matters of interest to his country, his State, and his legislative district he never failed to actively fulfill his responsibilities. Mr. Speaker, all Members on both sides of the aisle respected LEON GAVIN and held him in real esteem and affection.

Certainly our departed colleague will be greatly missed and fondly remembered in the years to come.

His death is a real loss, and I join his friends and colleagues in expressing profound regret. A great legislator, a good citizen, and a genuine and good man has gone to his reward.

Remarks by Representative Evins

Of Tennessee

Mr. EVINS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join with my colleagues from Pennsylvania and others in paying a brief but sincere tribute to the memory of our late colleague, LEON H. GAVIN, the gentleman from Pennsylvania, whose sudden death has saddened us all.

Congressman GAVIN has had a long and distinguished career of service as a Member of this body. He was an important and well respected and esteemed member of the Committee on Armed Services. He was a gentleman of integrity and character who served honorably and well his district, State, and Nation.

I knew LEON GAVIN as a warm friend and colleague. During my early years of service in the House, I lived in the same apartment building with Congressman GAVIN, and we began a friendship at that time which continued through the years.

I know of his great fight to secure approval of appropriations to have built in Pennsylvania the great Allegheny Dam. He fought tirelessly for the things he believed to be best for his district and State, and I admired him for his great work and dedication. He was a great American and will be greatly missed.

I extend to Mrs. Gavin and to the other members of his family an expression of my most sincere sympathy in their loss and bereavement.

Remarks by Representative Conte

Of Massachusetts

Mr. CONTE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of loss that I join with my colleagues in mourning the death of LEON H. GAVIN. His death on Saturday at the age of 70 was a severe blow to me, and he will be sorely missed in this House where he served so long and so notably.

Not only was his death a shocking blow to all who knew him but also to those whom he served in the greater State and Nation. I say this because LEON GAVIN spoke for the entire Nation as well as for the district he represented in northwestern Pennsylvania.

A distinguished Republican in the House and the second ranking Republican member of the Armed Services Committee, LEON GAVIN was not a rubber stamp for any man, and often voted against the wishes of his party if he felt that a particular issue was not in the best interest of the Nation.

Congressman GAVIN impressed his colleagues in many ways, Mr. Speaker, and was a great source of inspiration to the younger Members of this body.

A dedicated wildlife expert and the House representative on the National Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, LEON GAVIN fought diligently for a sound national wildlife program. I personally benefited from his warm and gracious advice on numerous occasions.

On a working basis, it would be hard to imagine a more genuine man, and daily meetings with him were a thing of great joy. His wit was precious, and he was a serious man. This is a rare distinction in times like these. He will be greatly missed, and I want to extend my deepest sympathies to his wife and three children.

Remarks by Representative Chenoweth

Of Colorado

Mr. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I was greatly saddened last Sunday when I learned of the passing of our colleague, LEON GAVIN. I wish to extend my sincere sympathy to our colleagues from Pennsylvania on this great loss, which all of us share with them.

I recall when LEON GAVIN came to the House. We had mutual friends in my hometown of Trinidad, Colo., who had known LEON in Pennsylvania. This gave us a common interest, and I soon learned to appreciate his many sterling qualities. We had many pleasant visits, and I always enjoyed talking to him.

LEON GAVIN was a sincere and dedicated public servant. He was most diligent in looking after the interests of his people. He was enthusiastic about any work in which he was engaged. There was never any question as to where LEON GAVIN stood on issues considered by the House.

I liked LEON, and I am going to miss him. His passing is a distinct loss, not only to his district, but to his State and the entire Nation. He was an able and efficient legislator and served in this body with great distinction. LEON GAVIN was a patriotic American and a champion of constitutional government.

I extend my deep personal sympathy to Mrs. Gavin and the children.

Remarks by Representative Goodell

Of New York

Mr. GOODELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my grief at the loss of a friend. LEON GAVIN, of Pennsylvania, who so ably represented the 23d District, which adjoins mine in New York State, is gone from this Chamber.

"LEE" GAVIN served in the 6th Division in the First World War. He was always a "top sergeant" who exhibited a bulldog tenacity to his principles which were so greatly admired in this House. His was a deep commitment to his district. Few Congressmen can match his record of devotion to public works. He worked tirelessly to advance the development of his area, searching out and grasping onto those ideas which could help the people of the 23d District. It was with a sense of duty, for example, that he was opposed to the Area Redevelopment Administration amendments this year, and he was tortured by the necessity to vote "no" on this program which might have brought some superficial assistance but which, in the long run, he felt, was unwise.

As this House knows well, he was an energetic and dynamic proponent of the Kinzua Dam project on the Allegheny River in Pennsylvania. I was against the construction of the dam until all possible alternatives were explored. "LEE" GAVIN was a stalwart and worthy opponent. On several occasions Congress heard his impassioned plea for Kinzua. I can hear his voice rising now in righteous indignation.

"LEE" GAVIN was a strong and vigorous legislator. Perhaps more important, he was an effective Representative.

To us who were his colleagues, he was a warm and generous friend, with a gentle and wry humor. He is gone, but his district and this House cannot forget what he has done and what he was.

May God give his family the strength to endure their loss. They have our sympathy. May God also grant this House more men like LEON GAVIN.

Remarks by Representative Fisher
Of Texas

Mr. FISHER. Mr. Speaker, LEON GAVIN was elected to the 78th Congress. He and I entered Congress together and I have known him quite well throughout the time he served in this body. For a number of years both of us have been members of the House Armed Services Committee. These associations have given me an opportunity to become well acquainted with him and to understand and appreciate his many outstanding qualities.

LEON GAVIN was an honorable man. He was an uncompromising enemy of graft and corruption in any form and was one of the leaders in the House in opposition to waste and extravagance in the operation of the Federal Government.

LEON was a fighter and a very articulate advocate of principles of good government which he espoused. At the same time he was very humble and took more than a passing interest in the little things in the lives of the people with whom he was associated. He was indeed a beloved character who fought the good fight and achieved and deserved the plaudits, the admiration, and respect of all his colleagues. I extend to the family my deepest sympathy in their bereavement.

Remarks by Representative Halleck

Of Indiana

Mr. HALLECK. Mr. Speaker, it was not until Monday morning, when I arrived at the Capitol, that I learned of "LEE" GAVIN's death on Saturday.

My reaction was one of disbelief. This just could not be.

And yet I realized in the next moment that this tragic news must be accepted and that a fine friend and great American was suddenly no longer with us.

It was my pleasure not so very long ago to speak in Oil City, "LEE" GAVIN's hometown.

On that occasion it was evident to me that the people he represented in the Congress so diligently and ably for so many years held him in highest esteem and had for him the deepest affection.

For those of us who knew him here, this was not hard to understand.

Our departed colleague is reported to have described himself as a "sort of maverick." I cannot vouch for the accuracy of that report. But I can say that, if this was the case, he was the most helpful maverick I ever knew.

The short biography "LEE" GAVIN offered for the Congressional Directory speaks volumes for his inherent modesty. It tells us that he was a Republican, an Army sergeant in World War I, that he was married and had a family, and that he served continuously in the House of Representatives from the 78th Congress to the present.

He must have been a great sergeant: tough, two-fisted, but with the most wonderful sense of humor a man could possibly possess.

He carried these same fighting qualities to his career in the Congress—and that same genius for rib-tickling comments that endeared him so very much to all of us on both sides of the aisle.

LEON HARRY GAVIN

"Lee" Gavin was a man genuinely loved by all who knew him, and he was held in highest regard here in the House of Representatives for his significant contributions as an experienced, dedicated, hard-working member of the Committee on Armed Services.

His presence in this Chamber will be sorely missed, and to his wife and family I offer my deep sympathy in their sudden bereavement.

Remarks by Representative Miller

Of California

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Speaker, LEON GAVIN was my friend, and I shall miss him. All of us shall miss him, and that makes our sorrow all the more poignant.

I have many enjoyable memories of association on the Committee on Armed Services and, although our political views differed, we were drawn together by virtue of the fact we were both World War I veterans. This was a strong tie.

It was my good fortune to travel to Europe on more than one occasion with Mr. GAVIN. We were both interested in history, particularly that of World War I. We visited several of its battlefields and cemeteries together.

Like you, I shall miss LEON GAVIN, but I am the better for having known him and to have considered him a personal friend.

Mrs. Miller joins me in extending our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Gavin and his family.

Remarks by Representative Rooney

Of New York

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, it was a great shock to me to learn of the sudden and unexpected passing of my long-time friend and colleague, the Honorable LEON GAVIN, of Pennsylvania.

It is with a heavy heart that I join my colleagues in paying tribute to him. He long will be remembered in these Halls of Congress for he was, indeed, a man of deep convictions, a man of courage and determination. As second ranking minority member of the House Committee on Armed Services, he continually worked for the welfare of the enlisted men of the U.S. Armed Forces.

LEON GAVIN'S life was dedicated to public service. The people of his district, of his beloved State of Pennsylvania, and of the entire country will surely miss the able leadership of our departed friend. To his wife, his sons, and his daughter, I extend my heartfelt sympathy upon their great loss.

Remarks by Representative Johnson

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to express my profound sorrow over the loss of our good friend and our colleague of many years, LEON H. GAVIN, the dean of the Pennsylvania delegation.

LEON, a man of strong convictions and sincerity of purpose, served his district, his State, and his Nation faithfully and well.

Throughout the years he was truly a servant of the people in the Congress, and he worked hard for the interests of the people who placed their faith and confidence in him by returning him to Congress so many times.

LEON was an outstanding American, devoted to his country, and he was continually in the forefront in the fight to preserve our wonderful form of government.

His work in the field of conservation, for the armed services and national defense, for veterans, and in many other areas, will not soon be forgotten. He left the imprint of his interests and efforts upon so many of us.

I know LEON will be sorely missed by all of us, and I extend my heartfelt sympathy to his wife and family.

Proceedings
in the
United States Senate

Proceedings in the Senate

MONDAY, *September 16, 1963.*

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, as in legislative session, I submit, on behalf of myself and the senior Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. Clark], a resolution extending condolences to the family of the Honorable LEON H. GAVIN, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

The resolution reads in part as follows:

Resolved, That a committee of two Senators be appointed by the Presiding Officer to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Shortly, Mr. President, a motion will be made to have the Senate adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate a message from the House, which will be read.

The Chief Clerk read the message, as follows:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S.,
September 16, 1963.

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable LEON H. GAVIN, a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That a committee of thirty-five Members of the House, with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now is on agreeing to the resolution of the Senator from Pennsylvania, which will be read.

The resolution (S. Res. 199) was read by the Chief Clerk, and was considered and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Honorable LEON H. GAVIN, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That a committee of two Senators be appointed by the Presiding Officer to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the second resolving clause, the Chair appoints the two Senators from Pennsylvania [Mr. Clark and Mr. Scott] the committee on the part of the Senate.

Mr. HUMPHREY. Mr. President, if there is no further business to be transacted, I move, as a further mark of respect and honor to the memory of the late Representative LEON H. GAVIN, of Pennsylvania, that the Senate adjourn, in accordance with the order previously entered, until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 6 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.) the Senate adjourned, in executive session, under the order previously entered, until tomorrow, Tuesday, September 17, 1963, at 10 o'clock a.m.

Remarks by Senator Scott

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, today we in Pennsylvania are mourning the death of the beloved dean of the Pennsylvania Republican delegation, Representative LEON H. GAVIN, of the 23d District. LEON and I served together in Congress for some 20 years. I had a deep affection for him as a person and a high regard for him as a legislator.

I am deeply saddened to learn of his death. He has been an outstanding Representative.

He and I came to Congress at almost the same time. Personally, he was a man of great warmth and compassion. On the floor of the House he was a fighter for the interests of his constituents—a fighter every bit as tough and determined as he was during the First World War, in the 51st Infantry.

Not only has Pennsylvania's 23d Congressional District lost a wonderful representative, but the Nation has lost a fine legislator.

Remarks by Senator Metcalf

Of Montana

Mr. METCALF. Mr. President, I was grieved to learn of the passing of a friend and colleague for whom I had great respect and admiration, Representative LEON H. GAVIN, of Pennsylvania.

I became acquainted with him during my first term in the House, 10 years ago. Although we sat on different sides of the aisle, we worked together closely on many conservation and resource matters.

I remember when Bernard deVoto, on behalf of the Izaak Walton League of America, the National Parks Association, National Wildlife Federation, Wilderness Society, and Wildlife Management Institute, presented him with an award for distinguished service to conservation. That citation, presented on July 15, 1954, read as follows:

Since the 78th Congress, LEON H. GAVIN'S continuing interest has been the promoting of better management of the vast treasures of natural resources held in public trust by the Federal Government and in assuring equal privileges for all who would benefit from these resources. During his long and active career in the House of Representatives of the United States, he has become known as a fearless champion of the national forest system. His trademarks are his firm convictions that, consistent with sound management policies, the privileges of all users of the national forests be recognized, and his unyielding stand in opposition to those who would obtain special privileges at the expense of others. He has been a forceful advocate of the appropriation by Congress of adequate funds with which to carry out the study and management of fish and game resources on these public lands. In recognition of his outstanding service and untiring efforts to secure the best management and wise use of the country's natural resources in the public interest, the undersigned national conservation organizations are privileged to present this national award and a bronze plaque to Representative LEON H. GAVIN, of Pennsylvania.

Mr. President, since shortly after coming to the Senate it has been my privilege to continue a close association with

Leon Gavin, as a fellow member of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission. I found him always to be a forceful, friendly, and articulate champion of those who sought enhancement of our forests, streams, fish and wildlife, and a foe to be reckoned with by those who sought special privilege in the public domain.

On behalf of Mrs. Metcalf and myself, I extend deepest sympathy to Mrs. Gavin and their children.

Memorial Tributes
to
Leon Harry Gavin

Memorial Tributes

Remarks by Representative Fulton

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. FULTON. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to call attention to the Members of Congress and the American people the fine editorial published by the Derrick, Oil City-Franklin-Clarion, Pa., newspaper, Monday, September 16, 1963, entitled "Hon. LEON H. GAVIN."

This excellent editorial has been called to my attention by State Senator Richard C. Frame, of Franklin, Pa., who has been a longtime friend of mine and in whose opinions I have great confidence.

This editorial represents an opinion, not only of a fine newspaper, but also the opinions of Senator Frame and myself as personal friends and admirers of the fine service which Congressman GAVIN has given over the years to our good country and the American people as well as the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the 23d Congressional District.

The editorial follows:

HON. LEON H. GAVIN

It is with profound regret and a sense of deep personal loss that we record the death of the Honorable LEON H. GAVIN, Representative in Congress from the 23d Pennsylvania District and one of Oil City's most distinguished citizens. He died suddenly in his Washington home Saturday night.

Mr. GAVIN was in his 21st year in the Congress, having been elected to an 11th consecutive term last November. He was the dean of the Pennsylvania delegation in Congress, was the second ranking Republican in point of service on the powerful Armed Services Committee, and was an influential member of several other important committees.

Throughout the years since his first election in 1942, Mr. GAVIN had faithfully and efficiently served his district in Congress. He

was truly a servant of the people in the legislative halls, and the diligence with which he labored for the rights and interests of his constituents won for him their unfaltering faith and confidence, as was so clearly evidenced by the overwhelming majorities with which he was continuously returned to Congress.

While compiling an excellent record of broad achievement for the people of his own district, Mr. GAVIN over the years had proved his outstanding capability as a national legislator who was outspoken in his opinions and forthright in his dealings on all matters of national and international importance. He served his district, his State, and the Nation well, and he never faltered in his steadfast support of the American way of life and against any infringements upon individual liberty. He labored without reservation for the maintenance of a military machine under which the Nation's security would be guaranteed.

Mr. GAVIN also was noted for his work in behalf of conservation and had been nationally honored for his distinguished service in this field by the Izaak Walton League of America, the National Parks Association, the National Wildlife Federation, and other societies and organizations. He worked ardently for flood control, and it was largely through his persistent efforts over the years that the Kinzua Dam on the upper Allegheny was approved for construction. He also was chiefly responsible for a number of other flood control projects in this district of Pennsylvania.

Mr. GAVIN had attained high stature in the Halls of Congress, and he was highly regarded by his fellow legislators without regard to political affiliation.

Prior to his service in the Congress, Mr. GAVIN served as secretary of the Oil City Chamber of Commerce for many years. It was in this work that he organized and carried on many projects for community betterment and progress. He was active in all phases of community life, and his achievements for the benefit of the city and the area were many.

A stanch friend, a devoted public servant, an outstanding citizen is gone. But his memory and his deeds will long remain enshrined in the hearts of his fellow citizens.

Remarks by Representative Karsten

Of Missouri

Mr. KARSTEN. Mr. Speaker, it was my privilege to serve with the Honorable LEON H. GAVIN, former Member of this body from the 23d District of Pennsylvania, both in this body and on the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission. He served both the House and the Commission with great distinction and credit.

On December 10, 1963, the Commission held its first meeting since the death of this distinguished Member and when it adjourned, it adjourned out of respect to his memory and in appreciation of his fine service.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert the resolution of respect that was passed by that Commission, consisting of Senators Metcalf and Hruska, Secretaries Udall, Hodges, and Freeman, and myself, as it commemorated his association with us and attested his service to the Commission and to the Nation.

The resolution reads:

Whereas the Honorable LEON H. GAVIN, Representative in Congress from Pennsylvania, served this Commission for more than 6 years with outstanding loyalty and devotion; and

Whereas death called this distinguished Member on September 15, 1963, bringing an end to his service and depriving us of his wise counsel, advice, and leadership; and

Whereas, in his passing, the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission feels a deep and continuing loss: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Commission be now adjourned in respect to his memory; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made a permanent record of this Commission, and that a copy be furnished to his family as an attestation of our respect, admiration, and true regard for this trusted, valued member.

JUN 1 '64

Date Due

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Memorial services held in the main



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